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ABSTRACT

This study was intended to provide descriptive data of the students in the Medicine Hat Youth Assessment Center, (YAC) in terms of psychological variables obtained from the Rorschach and the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory (MMPI). The adolescent subjects were 55 males assessed by the MMPI and 63 males and females assessed by the Rorschach from the opening of the YAC in 1979 until the summer of 1982. Exner's (1982) Rorschach norms and Marks, Seeman and Haller (1974) MMPI norms were used. Both tests meaningfully differentiate YAC students from the normative populations. MMPI results indicated heterogeneous personality types. Rorschach testing suggested these characteristics: oppositionality, poor reality testing, marked psychological pain, passivity, unconventionality, emotional and complexity avoidance, under-incorporating organization. (Author/PN)

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NORMATIVE DATA FROM RORSCHACH (EXNER) AND MMPI TESTS FOR STUDENTS ASSESSED IN AN ALBERTA GOVERNMENT YOUTH ASSESSMENT CENTER

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Abstract

This study is to provide MMPI descriptions for 55 males 12-15 and Rorschach descriptions for 63 mixed Ss, age 14-15. All were assessed by the author.

Exner's Rorschach (1982) norms and Marks et al (1974) MMPI norms were used. Two tailed t tests were used.

For the 55 males differences were not significant on the MMPI's, L,(5) and (0) scales. Marks et al have norms for 14 and under, and for 15 year olds. YAC Ss had means significantly higher at the .001 level for both age groups on F,(4),(6),(7),(8) and (9). Also, the younger scored at the .001 level on (1) and (2). Both scored lower on (K) at the .001 level. Two highest scales on Welsh Codes for the older were 17 (4)'s, 9(8)'s for the 29 older; and 16 (4)'s and 10 (6)'s for the 27 younger.

On the Rorschach, both the 9 F and 17 M 14 year olds and the 29 M and 8 F 15 year olds scored significantly differently on 21 out of 46 categories. Higher at the .001 level were: S, DQ-,m, Sum C', Sum Sh, Lambda; lower: CF, Sum C,(2),P,DV X+%. F+%, Afr. at .05 and .01 levels both ages had higher means for p,Sum V; and lower for DQ+, FM,FC.

Both tests meaningfully differentiate YAC Ss from the normative populations. MMPI results indicate heterogeneous personality types (cf. Exner, 1982). Rorschach suggests these characteristics: oppositionality, poor reality testing, marked psychological pain, passivity, unconventionality, emotional and complexity avoidance, under-incorporating organization.

Normative Data from Rorschach (Exner) and MMPI (Marks, Seeman and Haller) Tests for students assessed in an Alberta Government Youth Assessment Center (Medicine Hat).

The author is not aware of any Assessment Center in Alberta having developed norms for Rorschach and MMPI tests for their delinquent populations. This study is intended to provide descriptive data of the students in the Medicine Hat Youth Assessment Center in terms of psychological variables obtained from these tests. Exner's Comprehensive System was used for the Rorschach including his normative data for fourteen and fifteen year olds (Exner and Weiner, 1982). They are based on 115 fourteen year olds, combining males and females; likewise on 120 fifteen year olds.

Norms for the MMPI are obtained from Marks et al (1974). They provide norms for fourteen year olds and younger; and for fifteen year olds.

It is assumed that even though both sets of data are based on United States populations, they are relevant for an Alberta sample.

The Medicine Hat Assessment Center is one of several such Centers with regional locations throughout the Province of Alberta. However, its student population has come from all areas of the province due to fluctuating degress of crowdedness in various centers.

The following quotations are from a brochure published by the Alberta Government's Department of Social Services and Community Health:

"The Medicine Hat Youth Assessment Center was established in April, 1979... as a ten-bed, co-educational residential center for emotionally disturbed and delinquent adolescents. They are normally facing charges for delinquent acts or have been served Compulsory Care Orders or Certificates"...

"The mandate of the Center has three specific purposes and the focus of attention for the clients will include one or more of the following: 1. Secure Care; 2. Crisis Intervention and Short-Term Intensive Treatment; 3. Assessment."

"An assessment package normally includes: a behavioral/social assessment, an academic report, a psychological evaluation and, if required, a psychiatric assessment."

METHOD

All the test data obtained for this paper were the results of tests administered by this writer. He obtained his training in Rorschach by attending four Rorschach workshops conducted by Dr. John Exner, Jun. and four workshops sponsored by the University of Minnesota with regard to the MMPI under the direction of Dr. James Butcher. He also attended a joint workshop on the Rorschach and MMPI conducted by Drs. Exner and Butcher.

The Ss were all the students assessed by the writer from the opening of the Center in 1979 until the summer of 1982. Rorschachs were administered to 37 fifteen year olds (29 male and 8 female); and to 26 fourteen year olds (17 male and 9 female). The MMPI was administered to 27 males, ages twelve to fourteen inclusive; and to 29 fifteen year olds. The females were not included in the MMPI study due to their small numbers.

It was decided to obtain means and standard deviations for the various variables and to compute two tailed t tests to evaluate significant differences between the Center's norms and those of Exner for the Rorschach and of Marks et al. for the MMPI. It was also decided to use the code types for the MMPI in order to ascertain the propcsition of MMPI scales found in leading first or second positions. This seems to be important since there are so many different categories of delinquency. Weiner delineates five categories: sociological; characterological; neurotic; psychotic and organic (Weiner, 1982; Exner and Weiner, 1982).

RESULTS

The comparison of raw scores on the MMPI is presented in Table I for the 29 fifteen year olds. It is to be noted that only three scales had no significant differences, viz. L, 5 and 0. There were two

TABLE I

Comparison of 28 male fifteen-year olds at Youth Assessment Center, Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada, with 265 normal fifteen-year olds studied by Marks et al. (1974) on their MMPI scores.

SCALE	YAC		NORMALS		t	2 tailed test
	M	SD	M	SD		
L	3.1	2.07	3.9	2.33	.2181227	NS
F	16.5	8.27	8.1	5.97	6.796833	***
K	10.0	3.97	13.4	4.77	3.6392431	***
(1)	8.4	4.85	5.7	4.26	3.1465637	***
(2)	20.4	5.03	18.3	4.41	2.363576	*
(3)	19.8	4.62	17.8	4.87	2.0763235	*
(4)	23.7	5.52	18.3	4.67	5.7146304	***
(5)	22.8	4.25	21.3	4.79	1.5916745	NS
(6)	15.7	4.95	11.0	4.78	5.9808424	***
(7)	20.4	8.35	14.5	7.04	4.140031	***
(8)	29.4	11.12	16.9	10.00	6.224993	***
(9)	24.3	4.67	18.4	5.23	5.7311522	***
(0)	28.1	7.86	29.2	7.44	0.7400526	NS

* .05 level of significance

** .01 level of significance

*** .001 level of significance

scales significant at the .05 level, viz. 2 and 3. All the other eight scales were significantly higher at the .001 level of significance. The highest is for scale 8, followed by 6, 9 and 4..

The comparison of raw scores on the MMPI for the 27 twelve to fourteen year olds is presented in Table II. The same three scales were significant for this age group as for the fifteen year olds, viz. L,5 and 0. All significant differences were higher than at the .05 level. Scale 3 was at the .01 level; all others were at the .001 level.

The incidence of scales holding first or second place on the Welsh Code for both age groups is reported in Table III.

For both age groups a X^2 was computed which showed no significant difference as to the incidence of the leading two scales. The leading scale was 4, and the incidence was very similar with 29.63 percent for the twelve to fourteen year olds and 29.31 percent for the fifteen year olds. Scale 8 was the third highest for the former at 14.81 percent and second highest for the latter at 15.52 percent. Apart from Scale 4, the leading scales for both groups were 6, 7, 8 and 9.

On the Rorschach, the results for the fourteen year olds are presented in Table IV.

TABLE II

Comparison of 27 male twelve to fourteen year olds at the Youth Assessment Center, Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada, with 271 normal twelve to fourteen year olds studied by Marks et al. (1974) on their MMPI scores.

SCALE	YAC		NORMALS		t	2 tailed test
	M	SD	M	SD		
L	3.6	1.78	3.7	2.06	0.2433172	NS
F	17.6	8.30	7.2	5.03	6.7942005	***
K	8.9	3.41	13.2	4.84	4.6094162	***
(1)	9.2	4.30	5.3	3.39	5.9688097	***
(2)	23.3	4.70	17.9	4.50	5.9220948	***
(3)	20.3	5.77	17.5	4.51	2.993882	**
(4)	25.9	4.87	17.6	4.31	9.0049136	***
(5)	22.2	4.91	20.9	4.23	1.4326053	NS
(6)	16.5	4.84	10.3	3.67	8.7649307	***
(7)	23.3	8.24	14.4	7.30	5.96945	***
(8)	29.9	11.06	16.4	9.33	7.0456936	***
(9)	24.9	5.32	17.7	5.10	6.9689722	***
(0)	29.9	7.43	28.9	7.39	0.6701689	NS

* .05 level of significance

** .01 level of significance

*** .001 level of significance

TABLE III

Proportion of MMPI scales occupying first or second place on the Welsh Code for 27 twelve to fourteen year olds and 29 fifteen year olds at the Youth Assessment Center.

Scale	12-14 year olds N=54		15 year olds N=58	
	N for Scale	Proportion	N for Scale	Proportion
1	3	.0056	4	.0690
2	4	.0741	3	.0317
3	3	.0556	4	.0690
4	16	.2963	17	.2931
5	1	.0185	0	.0000
6	10	.1852	5	.0862
7	5	.0926	8	.1379
8	8	.1481	9	.1552
9	4	.0741	8	.1379
0	0	.0000	0	.0000
	54	1.0001	58	1.0000

TABLE IV

Comparison of 26 students (9 female and 17 male fourteen year olds) in the Medicine Hat Youth Assessment Center with 115 fourteen year olds by John Exner, Jun.

	Youth Assessment Center		John Exner's Group		
Category	M	SD	M	SD	
R	22.5	16.20	21.6	5.1	
Location					
W	9.5	5.57	7.8	2.8	
D	9.7	9.22	11.7	3.2	
Dd	2.2	6.32	2.1	1.1	
DW	0.1	0.30	0	-	**
S	2.8	3.33	0.8	0.5	***
DQ+	3.8	2.83	5.9	2.3	***
DQo	13.5	12.70	12.9	3.4	
DQv	1.1	1.56	1.2	0.5	
DQ-	5.2	4.78	1.6	0.7	***
DETERMINANTS					
M	2.5	2.83	2.9	1.2	
FM	2.6	2.25	3.2	0.9	*
m	2.4	2.44	0.2	0.3	***
a	4.0	3.60	4.1	1.8	
p	3.3	3.22	2.2	0.8	**

TABLE IV (Continued)

FC	1.2	5.40	2.1	1.2	**
CF	0.3	0.83	2.4	1.3	***
C + Cn	0.3	0.67	0.2	0.3	
Sum C	1.3	1.64	3.7	1.5	***
Sum C'	1.3	1.93	0.2	0.3	***
Sum T	0.6	0.85	0.8	0.5	
Sum Y	0.4	0.89	0.4	0.2	
Sum V	0.8	1.30	0.3	0.3	***
Sum Shading	3.4	4.34	1.7	0.6	***
FD	0.6	0.90	0.9	0.6	*
Fr + rF	0.6	1.53	0.2	0.1	**
(2)	4.7	3.99	8.7	2.9	***
F	11.1	9.88	9.4	2.5	

TABLE IV (Continued)

Blends	2.6	2.30	3.4	1.1	**
Pure H	2.7	3.13	2.8	1.0	
SPECIAL SCORES					
PSV	0.4	0.76	0.3	0.2	
DV	0	-	0.8	0.4	***
INCOM	0.3	0.55	0.8	0.6	***
FABCOM	0	-	0.5	0.3	***
ALOG	0	-	0.3	0.2	***
CONTAM	0.1	0.32	0	-	***
RATIOS AND DERIVATIVES					
Lambda	2.8	4.42	0.77	0.17	***
X+%	0.60	0.22	0.82	0.09	***
F+%	0.60	0.24	0.82	0.11	***
Afr	0.40	0.17	0.72	0.09	***
3r +(2)/R	0.30	0.24	0.43	0.09	***
Zd	-1.5	4.20	0.19	2.64	**
H +Hd	5.2	2.58	4.7	1.9	
A%	0.50	0.15	0.47	0.08	

On two tailed test: * .05 level of significance

** .01 level of significance

*** .001 level of significance

Out of 46 Rorschach variables, 18 were significantly different at the .001 level, 4 at the .01 level and 3 at the .05 level.

On the Rorschach, the results for the fifteen year olds are presented in Table V.

TABLE V

Comparison of 37 students (29 male; 8 female) in the Youth Assessment Center with 120 reported by Dr. John Exner, Jun. Both were fifteen year olds.

	Youth Assessment Center		Exner's Group		
Category	M	SD	M	SD	
R	22.5	15.49	21.5	5.4	
LOCATION					
W	8.9	7.07	8.2	3.0	
D	10.8	10.84	11.5	3.4	
Dd	2.49	5.36	1.8	0.9	
DW	0.14	0.53	0	-	
S	3.11	3.21	0.7	0.4	***
DQ+	4.27	3.91	5.7	1.9	**
DQo	13.68	12.02	12.3	3.2	
DQv	0.81	1.54	1.8	0.8	***
DQ-	3.73	4.22	1.7	0.9	***
DETERMINANTS					
M	2.12	2.65	2.8	1.2	*
FM	2.46	2.45	3.3	1.3	**
m	2.11	2.57	0.4	0.3	***
a	2.95	3.97	4.1	1.3	
p	4.00	3.18	2.4	0.7	***
FC	1.22	1.34	2.2	0.9	***
CF	0.30	0.70	1.9	0.8	***
C + Cn	0.11	0.31	0.2	0.2	*
Sum C	0.89	1.47	3.3	1.4	***

TABLE V (Continued)

Sum C'	1.38	2.05	0.3	0.3	***
Sum T	.65	.99	0.9	0.6	
Sum Y	.05	.60	0.3	0.3	***
Sum V	.54	1.03	0.3	0.2	*
Sum Shading	3.16	3.66	1.7	0.9	***
FD	.78	1.47	1.0	0.7	
FR + rF	.32	.62	0.4	0.2	
(2)	5.95	4.27	8.3	2.2	***
F	11.65	10.34	9.9	2.8	
P	4.81	4.20	6.6	1.4	***
Zf	11.05	7.57	10.4	2.9	
Blends	3.81	3.94	3.8	1.5	
Pure H	1.86	1.86	2.4	0.9	*
SPECIAL SCORES					
PSV	.32	.84	0.3	0.2	
DV	.08	.08	0.4	0.1	***
INCOM	.59	.98	0.6	0.4	
FABCOM	.24	.54	0.4	0.2	**
CONTAM	0	-	0	-	
RATIOS AND DERIVATIONS					
Lambda	3.31	4.72	.79	.11	***
X+%	.52	.19	.81	.09	***
F+%	.52	.20	.82	.12	***
Afr	.52	.22	.70	.17	***
3r + (2)/R	.39	.23	.44	.09	
Zd	-1.72	5.68	0.06	2.91	***
H + HD	4.00	3.77	4.7	1.9	
A%	.57	.18	.42	.09	***

Significance on 2 tail t test:

* .05 level of significance

** .01 level of significance

*** .001 level of significance

Out of the 46 variables, 18 were significant at the .001 level; 4 at the .01 and 4 at the .05 level.

15 variables were significant at the .001 level for both age groups. Lower scores were made by the Youth Assessment Center students on the following variables: CF,Sum C, (2), P,DV,X+%, F+%, Afr, Zd; higher scores were made on S, DQ-, m, Sum C, Lambda. There were 4 other variables where one group was significant at the .001 level and the other at the .01. Youth Assessment Center students scored higher on p, Sum V and lower on DQ+ and FC.

DISCUSSION

Results on the MMPI strongly support the Youth Assessment Center having a high level of deviation from Marks et al.'s normative sample. Only 3 scales were not significantly different for the two groups. Interviewing these students indicated their being very frank about their delinquencies and hence the Lie scale was in a normal range. The Masculinity and Social Introversion scales were also in the normal range for both groups. If the subgroup of characterological delinquency were studied, it could be that such would result in much higher social introversion scores, "Unlike sociological delinquents, characterological delinquents are usually loners who have no group membership or loyalties". (Weiner, 1982).

Weiner associates characterological delinquence with the psychopathic personality disorder which "is the most common personality disorder that

emerges during adolescence .... (Weiner, 1982). Hence, it is not surprising that the leading scale is 2, the psychopathic deviate scale. But it is somewhat surprising that it commanded only 29% of either first or second highest elevations for both age groups.

For both age groups the psychotic tetrad scales (6, 7, 8, 9) were among the next highest. These students are to be differentiated as to whether the basic problem is behavioral or on the other hand having an emotional or mental disorder. In practice, the writer had to decide which students also required a psychiatric assessment.

The Rorschach results for both groups again support the Youth Assessment Center's students exhibiting a high degree of deviation from a normal population.

Considering the variables that were significantly different from a normal population yields the following descriptors. The Youth Assessment Center's students are seen to be much more oppositional (S). They are much more apt to be followers (p). Interviewing these students revealed that the non-loners tend to associate with older adolescents, i.e. older than fifteen years of age. They revealed very poor reality testing (X+%, F+%, DQ- and Zd). The Zd suggests they under-incorporate their perceptual experience. They are more prone to respond before mediating the stimuli (Exner, Jun. 1978). They tend to be avoidant of both emotional involvements and situational complexities (FC, Afr, Lambda). Rorschach suggests they have more

depressive moods (Sum of Shading and Sum of nonachromative colors). They are seen to have more introspective pain (Sum V). Their emotions tend to be poorly modulated. They tend to be more unconventional (P).

It is concluded that both Rorschach and MMPI have validity for describing the personality descriptors of juvenile delinquents in the Medicine Hat Youth Assessment Center.

The principal weakness of the study is that it did not provide for greater precision by having sorted out students according to the various categories of delinquency. However, the numbers would have been too few if there were several sub groups. The incidence of scales taking first or second place on the MMPI sugests there would be several categories. As the numbers of assessed students increases there should be a greater probability of providing such a study. Students could be allocated to subgroups on the basis of MMPI scales and then their respective Rorschach findings could be compared.

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